

What is happening with Manston?

An update on RiverOak's plans to reopen the airport

- UK company RiverOak is applying to the Secretary of State for Transport (through the Planning Inspectorate) for permission to acquire and reopen Manston Airport, initially as a cargo airport but with the later addition of passenger services.
- RiverOak is applying for a 'Development Consent Order' (DCO) which is the process used for all Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects. This DCO is progressing steadily.
- Focusing on cargo is a new strategy for the airport, as it addresses the problem of cargo being squeezed out in favour of passenger aircraft in the south east, due to a shortage of runway capacity. Manston Airport will be the most modern state of the art Airport in the U.K.
- RiverOak has consistently made it clear that all of Manston Airport will be needed for aviation purposes, and they have no intention to build houses on it.
- RiverOak have been holding public consultation events across Thanet and parts of East Kent, and are now evaluating the responses before the DCO is submitted.
- The heavyweight reports required for the statutory consultation and DCO submission are available to read in local libraries and are also on the RSP website, www.rsp.co.uk
- The Planning Inspector has already ruled no change of use for 4 Manston Airport airside buildings, and defined the airport for aviation use only (TDC Saved Policy EC4). This should mean that the Thanet Draft Local Plan Consultation on Manston will have to be re-visited.



MANSTON AIRPORT IS RETURNING

Save Manston Airport association



www.savemanstonairport.org.uk

Update – August 2017.

RiverOak has always said that they would transfer their interest in Manston into a company registered in the UK. They have now created a new, UK-based company called RiverOak Strategic Partners, which is the company that will apply for the Development Consent Order (DCO) and CAA certification. Currently the DCO process is in the first – and longest – of 6 stages.

What is a DCO?

A DCO is a way the Government can ensure key national infrastructure projects are decided promptly, one way or the other. While there is no guarantee of success, applications that fit government policy are likely to be approved, although the Secretary of State has the final say.

Once RiverOak has submitted their application, the timetable for a decision on Manston is fixed.

Possible timetable for the reopening of the airport

- Statutory Public Consultation: June & July 2017 – completed.
- DCO Submitted: Late Autumn 2017
- Secretary of State decision: before the end of 2018
- Reopening of Manston Airport: 2020

Jobs, Education and Apprenticeships

The number of jobs expected to result from re-opening Manston Airport :

| Year | Freight tonnage | Passenger numbers | Jobs by RiverOak | Direct Jobs | Total Jobs |
|------|-----------------|-------------------|------------------|-------------|------------|
| Y5 | 173,741 | 686,672 | 697 | 2,150 | 15,266 |
| Y10 | 212,351 | 975,591 | 761 | 2,749 | 19,517 |
| Y20 | 340,758 | 1,407,753 | 1,024 | 4,271 | 30,326 |

RiverOak have made it clear they are keen to employ local staff and are currently engaging with local colleges and universities so as to up-skill local people, where necessary. A report by Azimuth Associates discusses RiverOak's thinking regarding education: <http://bit.ly/RSPAcademy>.

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bit.ly/SMAa-group

www.savemanstonairport.org.uk

bit.ly/SMAa-docs